



**PEDRO E. SEGARRA**  
MAYOR

# CITY OF HARTFORD

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**DARYL K. ROBERTS**  
Chief of Police

## TOP KAT LAUNDRY ROBBERY ARREST

### --- NEWS RELEASE---

(October 23, 2011) --- The Hartford Police Department apprehended a man suspected of robbing the Top Kat Laundry. The crime happened on Friday evening at the business, located at 36 New Britain Avenue.

The owner told police he was robbed at gunpoint as he left his place of business. According to police, a man posing as a homeless person collecting cans approached the owner's car and made off with about \$20,000 in cash.

Investigators obtained a description of a man wearing a mannequin-type white plastic mask with red lips, white gloves, a hat, black jeans and a black sweatshirt. The victim reported that the suspect was armed with a silver handgun.

The HPD Major Crimes Division quickly focused their investigation on a recently terminated employee whose boyfriend matched the suspect description. This suspect, 27-year-old Benjamin Munoz-Garcia, had an outstanding arrest warrant with the Hartford Police Department on an unrelated domestic violence matter. With the assistance of the Connecticut Intelligence Center bulletins regarding this incident were disseminated to all East Coast law enforcement agencies outlining the incident and possible suspect in this matter.

Early Saturday morning, the suspect was seen on Maple Avenue and was taken into custody on the outstanding domestic violence warrant without further incident. Inside the vehicle that Munoz-Garcia was operating investigators located a black bag containing the stolen money and a silver firearm. Following the arrest, police say Munoz-Garcia admitted to the armed robbery of the Top Kat Laundromat.

Mayor Pedro E. Segarra praised all the officers and detectives involved. "Good communication and teamwork helped bring about a quick arrest," said the Mayor.

Chief Daryl K. Roberts added, "This is an excellent example of how neighborhood policing works. A special thanks to the community for their cooperation."

Benjamin Munoz-Garcia of 198 Sigourney Street in Hartford was subsequently charged with Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Larceny 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Brandishing a Facsimile Firearm. He is currently being held on a \$500,000 bond.



Anyone having any additional information regarding this incident and or the suspect in this matter is asked to contact Detective George Watson of the Hartford Police Department Major Crimes Division at (860) 757-4000 or call Hartford Crime Stoppers at (860) 722-TIPS (8477).

